

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR
1953

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health

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Robert Johnson & Co., Ltd.

1954

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STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer:

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:

M. B. CLARKE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers:

B. S. JARVIS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

C. M. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Senior Dental Officer:

H. B. DAWES, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officer:

D. N. MAXFIELD, L.D.S. (from 1st April)

Administrative Assistant:

H. ALLEN LORD, B.A. (Admin.)

Visiting Specialists:

F. BAUER, F.R.C.S. EDIN., D.L.O., *Aural Surgeon*

E. ALLAN, M.B., CH.B., *Ophthalmic Surgeon*

F. C. DWYER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., M.CH.ORTH., *Orthopaedic Consultant Surgeon*

School Nurses:

Mrs. S. FOULDS

Mrs. M. M. OLSEN

Mrs. M. E. RICE

Miss D. M. STRICKLAND

(combined H.V. & S.N. duties)

Miss N. W. HIGGINS

Dental Attendants:

Miss B. BURNETT

Mrs. A. C. ROLLINSON

Clerks:

Miss D. GREEN (Clerk in Charge)

Miss D. BERNARD

Miss E. M. DUNFORD

Miss M. McDERMOTT

FOREWORD

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

BOOTLE.

August, 1954

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Education Committee.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the forty-sixth Annual Report on the health of the school children in Bootle.

During the year, 3,917 children were examined at the routine medical inspections; of these 56 or 1.43 per cent. were classified as of poor general condition as compared with 0.87 of 3,225 children reported at the corresponding examinations in 1952. Though this is a slight increase over the previous year, the tendency since the present classification was introduced in 1947, when the number reported was 6.44 per cent. of those examined, has been towards a gradual improvement.

The general standard of cleanliness continues to improve slowly, 1,574 cases of uncleanness or 4.12 per cent. of the children examined by the nurses being reported, as against 1,813 or 4.5 per cent. in the previous year.

The School Medical Officers referred 32 children suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis to the Chest Physician. Of these, 11 were found not to be infected, 7 failed to return to complete the investigations, while 14 were still under observation at the end of the year.

In accordance with the terms of circular 249 of the Ministry of Education, from 1st April, 1953, all entrants to the courses of training for teaching and to the teaching profession were required to have a chest x-ray as part of their general medical examination. During the year 32 such examinations were carried out.

It was not necessary to close any school or department during the year owing to infectious disease. There was a slight fall in the number of cases of measles notified, and a slight increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever and whooping cough. One case of diphtheria was notified, but on investigation the diagnosis was not confirmed. Under the arrangements made for immunisation against diphtheria, 331 children of school age received a complete course and 662 received a stimulating inoculation.

The re-opening of the dental clinic at the School Medical Offices on the 16th February, together with the appointment of Mr. D. N. Maxfield as an assistant Dental Officer on the 1st April, has resulted in a great increase in the number of children receiving dental treatment, details of which are given in the table on page 25.

In submitting this report, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Special Services (Education) Sub-Committee for their interest in the School Health Service, to the Director of Education and his staff, the teachers of the Borough, and the staff of my Department for their willing help and co-operation throughout the year.

T. R. ROBERTON,

Principal School Medical Officer.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1953

Area of Bootle in acres (exclusive of river bed)—3,054.

Population of Borough—Registrar-General's estimate of population at 30th June, 1953—76,330.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. The following statement records the attendance position in January, 1954, and shows an increase of 22 on the combined rolls of the Primary and Secondary Schools as compared with the previous year.

					<i>Number</i>	<i>Mean No. on Rolls</i>	<i>Average Attendance</i>	
<i>Primary Schools—</i>								
County	16	...	4207	...	3781
Voluntary	16	...	4135	...	3596
					<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
					32	8342		7377
					<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
<i>Secondary Schools—</i>								
County	7	...	2873	...	2623
Voluntary	6	...	1498	...	1299
					<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
					13	4371		3922
					<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>
Mean No. on Rolls (all schools)					...	...	12,713	

COST. The rateable value of the Borough as at 1st April, 1953, was £549,854.

The gross cost of medical inspection and treatment for the twelve months ended March 31st, 1953, was £13,303 14s. 1d., compared with £10,940 12s. 8d. for the preceding year. The Government Grant was £7,585 0s. 0d., sundry receipts totalled £661 7s. 0d. and the net cost was £5,057 7s. 1d., compared with £4,107 12s. 2d. for the preceding year.

The cost under this head per child on the school rolls was 20s. 5d. gross, and 7s. 9d. net, and the cost in terms of a penny rate was 6.11d. gross, and 2.32d. net.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

A statistical summary of the findings of medical inspection and of the kind of treatment obtained will be found in the Ministry of Education Returns at the end of this Report.

(1) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS. Periodic medical inspections were carried out in all schools with respect to the groups specified in paragraph 49 (2) of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, viz:—

- (a) every pupil admitted for the first time to a maintained school as soon as possible after the date of his admission;
- (b) every pupil attending a maintained Primary School during the last year of his attendance at such a school;
- (c) every pupil attending a maintained Secondary School during the last year of his attendance at such a school.

During the year the number of inspections totalled 3,917, made up as follows:—Entrants 1,755, Second Age Group 1,196, and Third Age Group 966.

(2) SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS. The number of children presented for special examination was 3,923, as compared with 4,399 in the preceding year; 3,899 of these were seen at Minor Ailments Clinics, while the remaining 24 were presented at schools in the course of routine visits.

(3) RE-EXAMINATIONS. 3,641 re-examinations of children, who on examination were referred for treatment or further observation, were made during the year, as compared with 5,290 during 1952; 1,763 of these were performed at the schools, and 1,878 at the School Medical Offices and Health Centre.

(4) MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS. In addition to the ordinary work of routine and special examinations and re-inspections undertaken during the year, the following work was carried out:—

Examination of:—

Children as to fitness for employment	...	...	112
Children for ascertainment of educational sub-normality	...	...	53
Other Children	...	...	37

In addition, the Director of Education was supplied with medical histories of 153 juvenile offenders. The following table shows the number of such reports supplied during the past five years:—

1953	...	...	153
1952	...	...	170
1951	...	...	192
1950	...	...	227
1949	...	...	204

A summary of the defects noted at both periodic and special examinations showed that 9,118 defects were referred for treatment or further observation.

The incidence of the commoner physical defects in children examined during periodic medical inspection was as follows:—Poor general condition, 1.4 per cent.; squint, 3.1 per cent.; external eye disease, 2.9 per cent.; chronic tonsillitis, 11.4 per cent.; adenoids, 0.2 per cent.; chronic tonsillitis and adenoids, 0.2 per cent.; other nose and throat conditions, 5.7 per cent.; anaemia, 0.3 per cent.; lung disease, 8.2 per cent.; otorrhoea, 1.9 per cent.; enlarged cervical glands, 8.7 per cent.; defective vision, 25.2 per cent.; skin conditions, 6.1 per cent.; heart (cong. and funct.), 3.0 per cent.; rickets, 1.7 per cent.; flat feet, 8.4 per cent.; posture, 2.6 per cent.

Children referred for treatment or further observation constituted 71.6 per cent. of the entrants examined, 70.0 per cent. of the primary leavers examined, and 75.1 per cent. of the third group examined.

(5) STUDENT TEACHERS. In accordance with Ministry of Education Circular 249, 32 medical examinations (male 7, female 25) were carried out of entrants to courses of training for teaching, and to the teaching profession.

GENERAL CONDITION

It will be noted in Table II (B) on page 22 that classification of the children by “general condition” has been substituted for the former classification by “nutrition”; and this table shows that out of a total of 3,917 children examined, 1.43 per cent. were grouped as in poor general condition as compared with 0.87 per cent. last year.

**COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS (IN KILOGRAMS) OF SCHOOL ENTRANTS IN 1953
AND EARLIER YEARS**

<i>Date of Examination</i>	Boys			Girls		
	<i>Number examined</i>	<i>Average Weight</i>		<i>Number examined</i>	<i>Average Weight</i>	
1953	...	899	...	20.1	...	856
1952	...	668	...	20.7	...	693
1951	...	804	...	20.6	...	744
1950	...	525	...	19.6	...	490
1949	...	574	...	19.8	...	493
1948	...	751	...	20.1	...	720
1947	...	472	...	19.4	...	470
1946	...	237	...	18.7	...	233
1945	...	207	...	19.1	...	187
1942	...	133	...	18.1	...	129
1938	...	709	...	18.6	...	654

CLEANLINESS

The total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses for verminous conditions was 37,601, and there were 1,574 instances in which children were noted as unclean. Last year's figures were 39,835 and 1,813 respectively.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Provision of clothing and footwear in necessitous cases continues in accordance with a scheme drawn up to meet the requirements of Section 5 of the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948. The following table shows the number of cases assisted during 1953:—

Clothing issued free of charge	...	...	...	...	726
Clothing issued at part cost	...	...	...	...	26
Clothing issued at full cost	...	...	...	...	34
					<hr/> 786

Of the above cases 2 children were referred to the Co-ordinating Officer for observation and in 4 cases the N.S.P.C.C. were asked to maintain friendly visits and supervision. Court proceedings for recovery of debts were taken in 4 cases involving 5 children. In addition, 8 cases of children, who were attending or being admitted to Residential Special Schools, were assisted as follows:—

Clothing issued free	...	...	...	...	1
Clothing issued at full cost	...	...	...	...	7
					<hr/> 8

This scheme, for provision of clothing, gives the opportunity, of which full advantage is taken, of close co-operation between the various agencies interested in the welfare of children. These agencies are co-ordinated by the Medical Officer of Health who acts as Co-ordinating Officer in connection with children who may be neglected in their own homes. In this capacity he is notified, at once, of any cases coming to the notice of the Education Department in which there is a possibility of neglect or ill treatment of children.

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS

The daily clinics for the treatment of minor ailments dealt with 3,351 defects, amongst which minor septic infections of the skin were the commonest conditions. The attendances numbered 14,374, excluding 105 of children below school age, as compared with 16,515 in 1952. 716 exclusion certificates were given, mainly on account of minor ailments but also on account of infectious diseases.

SKIN DISEASES

As a result of the inspections at the Minor Ailments Clinics, 1,746 children, or 52 per cent. of the total number of children attending, were found to be suffering from infections of the skin. Details of these infections are given in Table IV on page 23.

Scabies Clinic

The incidence of scabies among school children is shown in the following table:—

				<i>Cases found at Special Examinations</i>		<i>Cases found at Routine Inspections</i>
1953	...	...	...	22	...	Nil
1952	...	...	...	10	...	Nil
1951	...	...	...	8	...	Nil
1950	...	...	...	9	...	Nil
1949	...	...	...	25	...	Nil
1948	...	...	...	36	...	4
1947	...	...	...	69	...	7
1946	...	...	...	151	...	8
1945	...	...	...	188	...	13
1944	...	...	...	371	...	11

VISION AND EYE DEFECTS

VISION. Entrants are not examined for defective vision at routine examinations, but during the year the other age groups were so examined, and 437 or 20.2 per cent. were found to have defective vision requiring further examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon. In addition, 1,365 eight-year-olds were tested with Snellen's Types by School Nurses and 113 were referred for examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

Ophthalmic Clinic

The number of new cases seen at the Clinic during 1953 was 545, and the total number of attendances was 2,185.

All children with glasses have their visual acuity tested by the School Ophthalmic Surgeon once a year, if circumstances permit, while the cases of high myopia receive full examination more frequently.

Squint

At routine examinations 121 cases of squint were found, and 12 cases were found among pupils specially referred for examination. 30 were operated on at St. Paul's Eye Hospital, Liverpool.

External Eye Diseases

Inflammatory conditions of the external eye were noted in 112 cases at periodic inspections, and in 299 cases at special inspections.

DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT

The total number of cases dealt with in 1953 was 378 (this total included 25 infants below school age). The 353 school children included 99 cases of otorrhoea, 165 of defects of nose and throat, and 22 of deafness; and the toddlers included 4 cases of otorrhoea, and 21 of defects of nose and throat.

During the year, 7 clinics were held by the medical staff of the Department, with a total attendance of 70. These clinics were discontinued in view of the frequent visits of the Consultant and 23 consultative aural clinics were held by Dr. Bauer. 464 examinations were made (including 32 toddlers), and 120 cases referred to the special department of local hospitals.

Tonsils and Adenoids

At periodic inspections during the past year chronic tonsillitis was recorded in 11.4 per cent., while disease of both tonsils and adenoids was detected in 0.2 per cent. 75 cases are known to have received operative treatment as in-patients at local hospitals and 108 cases other forms of treatment.

DENTAL DEFECTS

At the beginning of the year only one Dental Officer was available for full-time duty, and one part-time Dental Officer available for one session per week.

The Principal School Medical Officer is indebted to Mr. Dawes, the Senior Dental Officer for the following report:—

Sickness in the Dental Staff and certain necessary work of reconstruction in the Dental Room have occasioned delay in the smooth running of the clinics.

In the last year there have been fewer cases to treat for gingivitis and similar conditions.

It is almost certain that in bad cases of oral neglect improvement would arise from a more diligent application of a suitable toothbrush—so simple and yet so excellent a measure.

It has been possible during the last twelve months to treat some orthodontic cases, and complete them. Too much time, however, cannot be set aside for this purpose unless the ordinary routine of other School Dental work is to be cut down.

A full tabular statement of the work of the Dental Service is given in Table V at the end of this Report.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year, 32 suspected cases were referred to the Chest Physician. Cases definitely considered not to be suffering from diseases of tuberculous origin numbered 11, and at the end of the year 14 were still under observation, and 6 failed to return for further investigation. 1 parent did not wish the child to attend.

The following table shows the cases dealt with during the past nine years:—

	<i>Total referred to T.O.</i>	<i>Diagnosed</i>			<i>Did not attend</i>	<i>Under observa- tion at end of year</i>
		<i>Pul- monary Tuber- culosis</i>	<i>Other forms of Tuber- culosis</i>	<i>Non- Tuber- culous</i>		
1953	32	—	—	11	7	14
1952	29	—	—	14	6	9
1951	44	—	—	35	4	5
1950	38	1	—	25	4	8
1949	38	—	—	33	—	5
1948	75	1	2	60	4	8
1947	55	1	1	42	3	8
1946	43	1	—	28	7	7
1945	46	2	2	30	2	9

Residential treatment of tuberculous children of school age was provided during the year at the Liverpool Open-Air Hospital for Children.

CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPAEDICS

There is no change to record in the arrangements described in former reports for the ascertainment and treatment of crippling defects.

Orthopaedic Clinic

Sessions are held at monthly intervals, with Mr. F. C. Dwyer as Consultant Surgeon and Mr. W. Ellis, Orthopaedic Registrar. Dr. M. B. Clarke has attended the sessions and also a representative from the Liverpool Child Welfare Association, thereby ensuring co-ordination in after-care.

Orthopaedic Surgeons paid ten visits to the Clinic during the year, and examined 259 cases referred to them. Of the patients seen, 36 were discharged, while 184 were advised to remain under treatment and supervision; 27 cases were referred to hospital, and in the 12 remaining cases no treatment was considered necessary.

A Remedial Exercises Clinic is held each Saturday morning, under the direction of a School Nurse, mainly for the correction of flat feet and bad posture. The attendances during the year numbered 240.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The definition of the various categories of handicapped pupils is set forth in paragraph 3 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1953, and the numbers in the Register at the end of the year are as follows:—

	<i>Boys ...</i>	<i>Girls ...</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) Blind	— ...	2 ...	2
(b) Partially sighted	1 ...	1 ...	2
(c) Deaf	5 ...	3 ...	8
(d) Partially Deaf	4 ...	7 ...	11
(e) Educationally Sub-Normal ...	72 ...	36 ...	108
(f) Epileptic	3 ...	1 ...	4
(g) Maladjusted	3 ...	2 ...	5
(h) Physically Handicapped ...	16 ...	9 ...	25
(i) Speech Defect	2 ...	2 ...	4
(j) Delicate	4 ...	7 ...	11
	<hr/> 110	<hr/> 70	<hr/> 180

Twenty-two boys and seventeen girls are attending Special Schools

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

No school or department was closed on account of communicable disease during the year.

SCARLET FEVER. The number of cases notified in children of school age was 62, compared with 52 in 1952 and 53 in 1951.

DIPHTHERIA. One case was notified in a child of school age (but the diagnosis was not confirmed), as compared with 2 notified in 1952 and 5 in 1951.

MEASLES. 324 cases were notified amongst school children, as against 391 in 1952 and 922 in 1951.

CHICKEN POX. Thirteen cases were reported, as against 3 in 1952 and 14 in 1951.

MUMPS. Two cases were reported, compared with 6 in 1952 and 6 in 1951.

WHOOPIING COUGH. 114 cases were notified amongst school children, as compared with 28 in 1952 and 366 in 1951.

Protection against Diphtheria

Immunisation of children as described in previous reports commenced in 1932, and during the year 820 children under five years of age and 331 children of school age completed the course. Arrangements now operate whereby children already immunised and about to enter school are offered a third inoculation in order to raise their immunity at the beginning of their school life, and 662 children were so treated during the year.

NURSERY CLASSES

				<i>No. of new admissions in 1953</i>	<i>No. on roll on 15/12/53</i>	<i>Average No. in Attendance Jan.-Dec. '53</i>
Linacre Nursery	...	...	...	25	28	22
St. Monica's	...	...	...	42	46	40
Salisbury...	...	...	...	52	61	48
St. Mary's	...	...	...	51	40	35
Hawthorne	...	...	...	12	18	20
				<hr/> 182	<hr/> 193	<hr/> 165

The Nursery Classes have continued to meet a need. The children who have been in regular attendance have shown marked physical and emotional improvement and applications for admission to the Classes were again in excess of available places.

Health Visitors continued to supervise the hygiene and cleanliness of the children and Dr. M. B. Clarke made frequent visits. One hundred

and twenty-six children received a routine medical inspection and defects were found in 95 of these children, who were referred for treatment or observation. By this means care is given to those children under 5 years of age who are most likely to need it, since admission to the Nursery Classes is based on social conditions and family circumstances.

AFTER CARE

Arrangements for the after-care of children ascertained to be suffering from defects remained as described in previous reports, viz., verbal or written advice is given by the Medical Officer or School Nurse, together with re-inspection each term. In the course of their after-care work the School Nurses paid 1,574 visits to the homes to explain the need for treatment and the way in which it could be obtained. Action is also taken in giving supervision where necessary to children who have been in hospital. In this connection it is desired to acknowledge the co-operation of the Hospital Authorities, particularly the Medical Superintendent of Alder Hey Hospital, in forwarding reports on children discharged from hospital.

PROVISION OF MEALS

During the year St. Winifride's Junior Girls' Dining Hall was opened.

The number of school dinners supplied was:—

Free	...	...	...	...	195,131
On payment	...	...	...	...	497,129
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>692,260</u>

MILK. The number of one-third pint bottles of milk provided during the period under review was 2,161,082.

The number of individual children supplied with meals and milk on a normal day in October was:—

Meals—Free	...	...	...	...	981
Paid	...	...	...	...	2,556
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>3,537</u>
Milk	...	...	...	...	<u>11,280</u>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. F. M. Durrant, Organiser of Physical Training, submits the following report on this important aspect of education:—

THE NEW APPROACH. Changes in opinion govern events, and the two books recently issued by the Ministry of Education—"Moving and Growing" and "Planning the Programme"—will help to crystallize changes of ideas in Physical Education which have been exercising for some time the minds of many teachers. Some of the Ministry's suggestions are revolutionary and will come as a challenge to teachers used to the prepared lessons and the more formal methods of the previous Syllabus. Other teachers will welcome Official recognition of the freer and more individual lines on which they are already working. It is certain that success in the interpretation of the Ministry's suggestions will depend on the careful study of individual children. This is already the practice of many teachers; but it becomes increasingly difficult with larger classes.

APPARATUS. Work in the new way needs tools for the job. Conditions favourable to the "new approach" are:—an adequate supply of small and large equipment, provision of suitable clothing and footwear, and space, indoors and outdoors, for free and active movement. Some progress has been made in these requirements: all schools received a small per capita grant for small P.T. and games equipment, and some of the larger types of apparatus are being introduced into the primary schools. In the grammar and secondary schools, old portable apparatus was overhauled; halls are being adapted as gymnasia and new schools are being equipped with apparatus and showers in accordance with modern standards.

TEACHERS' COURSES. Whatever the apparatus or method the mainspring is the teacher. The following short local courses and demonstrations were available to teachers and were fairly well-attended:—

Demonstration lessons and discussions on recent developments in physical education.

Winter course in swimming and life-saving arranged by the R.L.S.S.

Demonstration by the Fire Service of the Holger Nielson
Method of resuscitation.

An athletics course for secondary school teachers
conducted by A.A.A. Coach, Mr. D. C. V. Watts.

A course in Scottish Country Dancing.

SWIMMING. Traditionally, swimming instruction takes a prominent place in the physical education of Bootle children.

(a) GIRLS—The developments noted last year—opening of new bath, appointment of instructress for girls' classes, re-formation of women-teachers' Swimming Association—have had results. A very successful gala in which 18 schools participated was organised by the Association which reported the following awards on its second year's working:—

1st Class Certificates, 34; 2nd Class, 121; Learners', 224;
R.L.S.S., 42. Total—421 awards.

(b) BOYS—The Schoolmasters' Swimming Association continued to look after the boys' interests. Two inter-school galas, supported by all the boys' schools, were held, at which competitions for the following trophies were decided:—

Senior Squadron	Trinity Technical School.
Junior Squadron	Bedford Road Primary School.
Senior Aggregate Cup	St. Winefride's Secondary School.
Junior Aggregate Shield ...	Bedford Road Primary School.
Schoolboy Championship Cup	H. Chappell (Grammar School).

Five schools entered teams for the Police Cup for Life-Saving, the final stage of which was held at the Police Swimming Gala, and resulted in a win for Roberts Secondary School.

The following certificates were awarded:—

Special Merit, 132; 1st Class, 134; 2nd Class, 150; 3rd Class, 280; Junior (one length), 140; R.L.S.S. Awards and Free Contracts, 117. Total—953 awards.

A development from which results are hoped was affiliation of both Associations to the Lancashire and English Schools' Swimming Associations. Bootle children who reach certain standards may now compete at County and National levels.

ORGANISED GAMES. In a congested area like Bootle it is not surprising that demands for suitable accommodation for field activities were hard to satisfy. With ever increasing pressure, grounds like Stuart Road Playing Field and Orrell Pleasure Ground, used for winter and summer activities, are bound to be difficult to maintain in good condition.

At Stuart Road the main provisions were, winter—3 hockey pitches, 2 netball courts, six association football pitches, 1 rugby pitch; summer—facilities for track and field athletics, 2 cricket squares, numerous pitches for rounders and cricket, 2 netball courts. It is estimated that attendance averaged 3,600 children weekly with a further 600 engaged in activities outside school hours. About 2,000 children—mainly boys—used Orrell Pleasure Ground and Orrell Lodge, where playing conditions were less favourable. Transport to Orrell Pleasure Ground was provided on two sessions weekly for St. James' and St. Joan's Secondary Schools.

There were demands for Athletics, Tennis and Rugby Football which could not be met. It is anticipated that these facilities will become available for the new Secondary schools in the new areas. For the older schools it is impossible to provide them on or near the school sites, and it is suggested that further consideration be given to the development of Bootle Stadium as a centre for Athletics, Tennis, Cricket and similar activities. The youth of the Borough generally would benefit from having a really attractive physical and social centre.

Helped in the matter of coaching facilities by the Bootle Cricket Club, the Schools' Cricket Association fielded a "Town Team" which played a number of matches. Now affiliated to the Lancashire Schools' C.A., Bootle boys will look forward to taking part in the County Competitions.

All boys' schools entered for the Athletic Festival, the aggregate Shields for senior and junior events being won by the Grammar School and Orrell J.B. School respectively.

Athletics for boys and games for girls were the main activities of the evening games centre held at Stuart Road Field during the summer months.

VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS. Few people realise the range and number of physical and social activities carried on out of school hours which would be impossible without the voluntary co-operation of many teachers. Besides the inter-school leagues and sports events, there were matches at district and County level and “friendly” games with schools outside the Borough. This year, some schools broke new ground by arranging cross-country runs and swimming contests with other schools. Rugby football continued to develop. School “club” activities—dancing, boxing, camping, swimming, badminton, gymnastics—were available to enrich the social and physical experience of the older children.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

One hundred and eight children desiring employment as messenger boys or girls were examined, and certificates were granted in all but one case. These interviews gave opportunity to advise on faults in hygiene, particularly as regards care of the teeth, and to obtain treatment of physical defects. Four certificates for pantomime entertainers were granted.

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953**

TABLE I

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING
SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

A.—Periodic Medical Inspections

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,755
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,196
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	966
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,917

Number of other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,917

B.—Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,300
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,641
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,941

C.—Pupils found to require Treatment

<i>Group</i>	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i>	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIa</i>	<i>Total individual pupils</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	9	462	469
Second Age Group	222	260	421
Third Age Group	206	260	421
Total (prescribed groups)	437	982	1311
Other Periodic Inspections	—	—	—
Grand Total	437	982	1311

TABLE II

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year Ended
31st December, 1953

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment (5)
4	Skin	119	90	1662	1
5	Eyes—				
	a. Vision	437	137	95	2
	b. Squint	88	34	13	—
	c. Other... ..	77	29	299	1
6	Ears—				
	a. Hearing	42	50	3	7
	b. Otitis Media	56	31	130	—
	c. Other... ..	126	164	221	—
7	Nose or Throat	163	538	122	14
8	Speech... ..	9	33	3	5
9	Cervical Glands	36	290	36	9
10	Heart and Circulation	15	105	1	8
11	Lungs	108	240	20	7
12	Developmental—				
	a. Hernia	7	4	—	—
	b. Other... ..	31	72	1	2
13	Orthopaedic—				
	a. Posture	23	63	1	4
	b. Flat Foot	165	69	44	—
	c. Other... ..	113	166	28	8
14	Nervous System—				
	a. Epilepsy	3	6	—	1
	b. Other... ..	8	90	—	11
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development	6	17	—	4
	b. Stability	—	4	—	9
16	Other	643	376	1440	23

B.—Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Age Groups

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	1755	721	41.08	1013	57.72	21	1.20
Second Age Group	1196	183	15.30	990	82.78	23	1.92
Third Age Group	966	419	43.38	535	55.38	12	1.24
Other Periodic Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3917	1323	33.78	2538	64.79	56	1.43

TABLE III
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons | 37,601 |
| (ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested | ... 1,574 |
| (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) | ... 14 |
| (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) | ... 4 |

TABLE IV

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

GROUP 1 DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III)

				<i>Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year</i>		
				<i>by the Authority</i>		<i>otherwise</i>
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	...	...	...	—	...	2
(ii) Body	...	...	...	12	...	3
Scabies	...	...	...	22	...	—
Impetigo	...	...	...	242	...	3
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	...	1470	...	151
Total	...	...	...	1746	...	159

GROUP 2. EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

				<i>Number of cases dealt with</i>		
				<i>by the Authority</i>		<i>otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...	...	335	...	13
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...	...	...	1273*	...	—
Total	...	...	...	1608	...	13
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were:						
(a) Prescribed	...	...	...	607*	...	—
‡(b) Obtained	...	...	...	328*	...	—
Total	...	...	...	935	...	—

* Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

‡ Under Health Scheme, patients can attend any Optician. This figure only is known to the Authority.

GROUP 3. DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

				<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
				<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Received operative treatment:—					
(a)	for diseases of the ear	...	...	—	4
(b)	for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis			—	72
(c)	for other nose and throat conditions	...	...	—	3
Received other forms of treatment ...				292	141
Total ...				<hr/> 292	<hr/> 220

GROUP 4. ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a)	Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	...	11		
				<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
				<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
(b)	Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patient departments	13	...	135	

GROUP 5. CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

				<i>In the Authority's</i>	
				<i>Child Guidance</i>	<i>Elsewhere</i>
				<i>Clinics</i>	
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics ...				—	9

GROUP 6. SPEECH THERAPY

				<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
				<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists ...				—	4

GROUP 7. OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

				<i>Number of cases treated</i>	
				<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
(a)	Miscellaneous minor ailments...	...	...	1064	186
Total ...				<hr/> 1064	<hr/> 186

TABLE V

**DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY
THE AUTHORITY**

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—						
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	...	8135
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	1399
Total (1)						9534
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	6404
(3) Number referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	6404
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	3059
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	3618
(6) Half-days devoted to: Inspection						38
Treatment						592
Total (6)						630
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	714
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	29
Total (7)						743
(8) Number of Teeth filled: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	642
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	29
Total (8)						671
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	1250
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	3567
Total (9)						4817
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	...	2436
(11) Other operations: Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	593
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total (11)						593

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Officers	...	...	4
Dental Officers	...	...	2 whole-time; 1 vacancy
School Nurses	...	...	4
Dental Attendant	...	...	2

LOCATION OF SCHOOL CLINICS

Clinic Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Knowsley Road, and at the School Medical Offices, Balliol Road.

PARTICULARS OF CLINIC SESSIONS HELD

Examination and/or treatment	Health Centre Knowsley Road	School Medical Offices Balliol Road	
	By staff of local health authority	Under arrange- ments made with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board	By staff of local health authority
A. Minor ailment and other non-specialist examina- tion or treatment	Daily a.m.	—	Daily a.m.
B. Dental	Daily	—	Daily
C. Ophthalmic	—	—	Thrice weekly
D. Ear, Nose and Throat...	—	Once monthly	—
E. Orthopaedic	—	Once monthly	—

HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS or BOARDING IN BOARDING SCHOOLS

	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Delicate	Physically handicapped	Educationally sub-normal	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Total 1-9
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
In the calendar year:—										
A. Handicapped Pupils <i>newly placed</i> in Special Schools or Homes	—	1	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	6
B. Handicapped Pupils <i>newly ascertained</i> as requiring education at Special Schools or boarding in Homes	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	2	—	15
On or about Dec. 1st:—										
C. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area:—										
(i) attending Special Schools as Day Pupils	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
Boarded Pupils	2	2	7	8	—	3	9	—	2	33
(ii) Boarded in Homes	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
(iii) attending assisted schools (under approved arrangements)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (C) ...	2	2	7	8	—	3	14	1	2	39
D. Number of Handicapped Pupils being educated under arrangements made under Sec. 56 of the Education Act, 1944:—										
(a) in hospitals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) elsewhere	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3
E. Number of Handicapped Pupils requiring places in special schools (including any such unplaced children who are temporarily receiving home tuition) ...	—	—	1	1	1	2	48	2	—	55

No. of children reported during the Calendar Year

Under Section 57 (3) of Education Act, 1944 ... 6

" " 57 (4) " " " " ... —

" " 57 (5) " " " " ... 9

1874